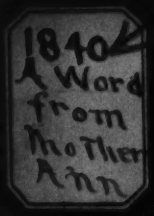

1842

PAPERS
OF
SHAKERS

127

NEW YORK
New Lebanon

A Word.

From Mother Ann to the Elders of the Gathering Order on the Holy Mount.

Copied from the Second Part of the seventh sealed Roll brought by the Holy Angel Sel vin sen cla ren den Dejah to the Holy Anointed and by the same read to the Writer.

Dec 25th 1842.

Holy Mount first Order

Mothers Word,

Come gather near O ye faithful Watchman, ye lovely and good-ly Shepherds in Zion, come near one more to your Mother dear! Yea sit-ye together this morn, even New Years morn and hear and contemplate upon this

your Mothers Word. And while you reflect upon the deep tribulation that it must unavoidably bring, rejoice also that you and your little Ones many or all of them, are found ready and prepared to receive it, and also to receive whatsoever I your loving Mother have for you and them.

My dear Children take courage, be comforted and be strong, and O fear not, your Mothers hand will bear you through all the trying scenes that my work and word does and may bring before you, or cause you to feel. Think ye my well beloved Ones that I your friend and most affectionate Parent and Mother would call or drive you into a miry pond and leave you to get out as you could?

Nay not so indeed. Think ye that I would walk at your right hand in time of peace, and readily forsake you when the enemy come near and were ready to burst upon you?

O nay nay beloved, this I shall not do; this I have never done altho' at times you have felt almost forsaken, and hardly knew that your Mother dear would even look towards you.

But O filew, se vun da, ka na, know ye mine eye of love is upon you and mine ear of pity is turned towards you, and mine arm of strength has never

been withdrawn, and my hand of safety and sure protection is ever ready to screen you and your little ones, at any moment of danger, so I say fear no more.

Surely I am at peace with you my faithful Shepherds, at this time; I have nought but a Mothers love and blessing, and a parents tender care, for you and your little ones, my lovely babes.

But O Beloved I have a few words to say to you, that perhaps will feel like darts and daggers pointed at your hearts, but stop a moment and see if you ever knew your Mothers word to do harm, if used

aright, or my promises to fail.
Then listen ye,
O dear Children!
heavy afflictions are just before
you; sorrow lith at your doors,
and heart rending trouble at your
gates. For destroying wolves will
creep in among your little ones
in spite of all ye can do. But
O faint not my beloved, should you
see some of my babes that you
now think are on quite safe
ground, just upon the point of
shipwreck, and gasping for the
last breath of spiritual life, and
others suffering the most cruel tor-
tures of their enemies; marvel not
my beloved at my word, for so
you will find it to be, and for
this you must prepare, for a day

of heavy trial is near at hand, and mark ye my words, for I say every soul old or young, let their rank or station in Zion be what or where it may, or their privilege be long or short, that will and does stand firm, and go thro' the work of the present day unshaken, will in the end be like gold that has passed the refiners fire, and as tho' the fullers soap had cleansed them in very deed. But I say all will not go through, for all that is gathered is not precious wheat but much chaff and dust you will find. I tell you of this that when your trying days really come, you need not fear that your Mother does not know you troubles and wonder why her hand is not stretched forth to save the whole. Truly my beloved, my

spirit would rejoice equally with yours, if every soul that enters Zion, would purify themselves from that which is without, and would never again return to it. But O ye Lamanites it is not so.

I think I will say no more to you now upon this subject, lest I trouble you too much; but were it not so, and did I not feel for your present and future welfare and prosperity I would not tell you of these things.

Now beloved concerning the work, yea the strange and wonderful work that has been going on in the most parts of Zion, for some months past, (save a short cessation of late in this place,) I have a few words to speak to you, and a short word to your little ones in union with

sorry holy chosen, your visible Lead
so receive it and let it comfort you
and strengthen you to persevere on.
In your past labors with the poor dark
and ignorant Spirits that were sent
to you for help, I was, and am still
perfectly satisfied. And could you
beloved once behold their daily various
performances to express their gratitude
and hear their acclamations of joy,
and the exclamations of thanks and
love towards those that labored to
help them, and to you the dear helpers
in particular, that daily echo thro'
the heavens, your Spirits would be
cheered, I think; and you would feel
entirely rewarded for the trouble and
grief they caused you.
But know ye the best ye have
had and the worst is to come,

for those that have been sent, were ignorant, and they knew it, and you knew it too; but many of those that are to come, are professedly wise and really are so, in their own eyes and self conceited, and some you will find, have much of mens wisdom, and but very little of the wisdom of Heaven, and know but very little of the things of God.

Again some will come that will seem to you more ignorant than the beasts if possible, but wisdom shall be yours, and knowledge shall be given you to deal wisely and justly with them. So fear not, but prepare quickly for the day and work. This is my word unto you my lovely ones; And now I have a short word, and a pretty present

for all my children under your charge, that will receive it in the simple form that I require and take any means to get it.

Mothers Word to the People.

O my children, my children, listen once more to the word of a Parent true and kind, and a Mother dear, and raise one joyful shout of thanks for such a Parents notice, on New Years Morn. But O prepare, prepare my little ones for a day of severe trial, yea to meet with that, which will try your faith (which you think is so firm, to the last point and not will cause the unwise to cavil and the selfwise to be

compounded. But hearken to my word, and give heed to the counsel of a Mother dear this once, and you will not be harmed nor turned aside from the strait and narrow path, by the most faith trying scenes you can meet in time. Keep the fear of your God in all your doings. Gather near to your visible Lead and walk in true justification before them, and in no wise judge their doings. Judge not the wonderful doings of your God, and attempt not to scan his holy work however marvellous or mysterious, for know ye his doings are not to be judged by vain men, his purposes are past finding out, and the meaning there of cannot

be comprehended, the least of his wisdom and knowledge does and ever will confuse and confound that of the most worldly wise and great men of the earth.
So be wise little ones, and remember that perfect obedience to the holy Order of your protection, innocence and true sincerity, honesty and simplicity, are the godly virtues that become the children of Zion. Put away all pride of nature self knowledge and vain jealousy, and be willing to become fools in the eyes of men, for the sake of your own souls, and to help those that know not God, nor his way as you do, and for the sake of the holy Gospel of your ever blessed Mother Ann. —

Now my little ones in union with your beloved Elders, I will try your faith a little and see how much you are willing to do, to obtain a blessing from heaven, and see how much you can bear. I want you should all turn each way and shout once and repeat the following words.—

Come O come ye poor and ye needy
Come and enter the Zion of God
Confess all your sins & right all your wrongs
And with the righteous take up your abode

Then shout ye four times and these shouts will be heard by thousands of Spirits that as yet never heard the shouts of the justified. Then repeat ye these words on your knees. — —

Come and follow the footsteps of Jesus the Savior
Renounce ye the pleasures of nature forever
With us wear Christs yoke, with us bear his cross
Then with us covet the crown and with us rejoice.

Then arise and sing "People of every nation" &c and march the same. And as ye march the little Angels that are present will place upon the head of every one, a bright-cross and on their necks a little yoke.

Then sit ye upon the floor and sing the song entitled the easy yoke

Then upon your knees repeat these words; Strengthen me O Lord! Help me O my Mother,! For thy Laws I will keep, and thy word I will obey. O yea, my Mother, thy yoke I will wear, and thy cross I will bear, thy holy love and blessing to share.

After all this you may rejoice and give thanks for the blessed gospel of salvation, and that you have found a Brothers House on earth, where there is peace and quietness, and a happy resting place for the weary traveller Jesus time that is ready and willing to forsake all sin.

So now my little ones farewell in Holy Love; Remember that the work is before you is the work of your God, therefore judge it not, but handle it with clean hands, and go forth in it with sincere hearts, in perfect obedience to your Elders, and you will go perfectly safe. And if there be any or many, that cannot see any profit in Gods working

thus and so with his creatures, let them go to their Elders and open their feelings and not do it to one another, for I will assure you, your God is not deaf nor blind; but is fast purposing to put to shame the bold confidence of proud mortals, and to bring down their haughtiness. So be ye prepared O ye people, be prepared for that day. And O murmur not when it comes; but know that your God well understandeth the meaning of his own work, and will carry it thro' according to his own will and design.

Again, he will assuredly protect his own, at all times; So fear not ye are the chosen of the Lord,

and if you will pray to your
Holy Father in Heaven for a true
knowledge of his holy way, he
will in very deed grant it to you.
And if ye possess even but a
grain of Holy Faith, that pro-
-ceedeth from God alone, you
will surely receive strength
from this the Word of your
Parent and Mother in Heaven.

End of the Roll which is to be written now.

Word of the Angel to the Elders, or Lovely Shepherds

O Beloved

It is the will of your ever blessed and loving Mother Ann, that you would feel perfect freedom to withhold this word from as many as ye think it would not profit; but she said she could in no wise withhold it from all, at this time; for it was the will of her God that she should write at this time, and send it by me her Holy Angel. And now, as I leave you, I place in your hands a Salver of sweet Cake; and a Decanter

of sweet Wine in your left, —
enough to last you and your
little ones till the New Year —
comes again; But all that taste
now, will not taste them: yet
many will eat and drink with
their Mother dear again again;
So eat and drink my Beloved,
of your Mothers New Years —
Cake, and your Parents in
Heaven and your Mother dear,
will partake at the same time.
This your Beloved Mother
Lucy prepared and it will con-
stitute a New Years supper in
Heaven, and will be partaken of
at the hour of 3 o-clock P.M.
So farewell my Beloved Ones.